

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present amendment, the pending claims will not have been amended, but claims 47-60 will have been submitted for consideration by the Examiner. In view of the herein contained remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of the outstanding rejection together with an indication of the allowability of all the claims pending in the present application. Such action is respectfully requested and is now believed to be appropriate and proper.

In the outstanding Official Action, the Examiner rejected claims 19, 20, 22-24, 28, 29, 31-33 and 37-46 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by SAITO et al. (EPO Patent Publication No. EP 0 835 011). Claims 21, 27 and 30 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103 as unpatentable over SAITO et al. in view of SMITH et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,385,655). Applicant respectfully traverses each of the above-noted rejections and submits that the claims in the present application are clearly patentable thereover.

Applicant respectfully submits that the combination of features recited in each of Applicant's claims clearly define over the disclosures of the references cited in the present application. Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and withdrawal of each of the outstanding rejections together with an indication of the allowability of all the claims in the present application.

Applicant's invention is directed to a communication apparatus that is connected to a terminal apparatus via a network. The communication apparatus includes a control panel configured to at least enter a destination address, and an e-mail transmitter that performs an e-mail transmission to a destination in response to an input from the control panel. Applicant's invention further includes a file generator that generates a communication result file that includes a result of the e-mail transmission communication performed by the e-mail transmitter and a memory that stores a communication result file as an HTML file. Applicant's invention further includes a communicator that transmits the communication result file to the terminal apparatus when a request for the communication result file is received from the terminal apparatus, the communication result file being displayable at the terminal apparatus.

In other words, and as an example only, the communication apparatus according to the present invention transmits an e-mail to a destination and is configured to transmit a communication result file to a terminal apparatus. The communication result file is in the form of "management" data which is stored as an HTML file and is displayable at the terminal apparatus. Accordingly, for example, an operator at the terminal apparatus can be made aware of transmissions taking place between a communication apparatus and a destination address without being present at either of those two locations. The combination

of features defining Applicant's invention as set forth in the claims pending herein is not taught, disclosed nor rendered obvious by SAITO et al.

In direct contrast to the features of the present invention, the facsimile communication device shown in SAITO et al. saves image data in a memory, generates access information data to enable access to the image data that has been stored in the memory, and sends the access information data to the reception terminal in an e-mail. Accordingly, the image data stored in the memory can be transmitted to the reception terminal by a point-to-point communication protocol upon receipt of an access request for the image data from the reception terminal. In terms of Fig. 1 of SAITO et al., the image data is stored in the memory by the netfax 1 which then sends a URL e-mail to the reception terminal. The reception terminal sends a request back to the netfax for the data and in response, the netfax sends the facsimile data to the reception terminal.

Thus, in its essential form, SAITO et al. merely transmits data between a netfax and a reception terminal. This can be considered to correspond to that aspect of Applicant's invention relating to transmitting data from a communication apparatus to a destination address.

Moreover, SAITO et al. does not disclose the generation of a communication result file that includes results of e-mail transmission communications performed by the e-mail transmitter. The access information data is transmitted to the reception terminal prior to the

transmission of the image data. This is in stark contrast to Applicant's invention which recites the results of a communication "performed" by the transmitter.

In setting forth the rejection, the Examiner asserts that SAITO et al. discloses a file generator and makes reference to the log file having access confirmation information as seen in Fig. 17. However, the access confirmation information is maintained in the external storage 14 and merely enables an access detector 43 to determine whether all the destinations for multicasting have been accessed.

Moreover, Fig. 18 which is also related to the fifth embodiment of SAITO et al. indicates that after scanning of the original, a confirmation column is added to the image data and stored in the server. Even after the image data is transferred in step 47 and the confirmation column is checked, there is no disclosure in SAITO et al. that the communication result file is transmitted to a terminal apparatus upon a request therefor. Moreover, in SAITO et al. at step 49 (Fig. 18), the image data is deleted. Since the confirmation column is added to the image data (step 43), it is clear that both the image data and the confirmation column are deleted and thus cannot be transmitted to a terminal apparatus.

In setting forth the rejection, the Examiner further makes reference to column 12, line 42 through column 13, line 8 as disclosing a communicator that transmits the communication

result file to the terminal apparatus. However, that is not what the sixth embodiment of SAITO et al. discloses.

Beginning at column 12, line 42, SAITO et al. appears to disclose that not only is it possible to provide information regarding accomplishment of transmission, but also of accomplishment of reception by the receiving terminal. Of course, in order to provide information regarding reception of the image, the receiving terminal must transmit appropriate data back to the netfax 1. Accordingly, for this embodiment, SAITO et al. discloses that a reception confirmation screen, at the reception terminal, allows access, so that the reception terminal can inform the netfax regarding the image reception information data. Essentially, this is exactly the opposite of Applicant's invention. In particular, Applicant's invention enables a terminal apparatus (not necessarily the destination terminal) to receive the communication result file upon submitting a request therefor to the communication apparatus. In direct contrast, SAITO et al. discloses that the netfax (i.e., the communication apparatus) requests the image reception information data from the destination (i.e., reception terminal).

In this regard, the Examiner's attention is respectfully directed to the paragraph bridging columns 12 and 13. According to the teachings of the sixth embodiment of SAITO et al., after the reception confirmation screen at the reception terminal is clicked, the image reception information is transmitted to the netfax 1. The netfax 1 recognizes the reception

of the image data at the reception information, based on the image reception information data sent back from the reception terminal and then sends an e-mail "whose contents indicates the accomplishment of transmission to the e-mail address of the acknowledgment requesting device". Thus, the apparatus of the sixth embodiment of SAITO et al. does not transmit "the communication result file" to the terminal apparatus when a request for the communication result file is received from the terminal apparatus.

Nor is the communication result file disclosed as being displayable at the terminal apparatus. In SAITO et al. there is no request by the terminal apparatus for transmission of the communication result file, or any indication that the communication result file can be displayed at the terminal apparatus.

Further, the sending of the e-mail with contents indicating the accomplishment of transmission to the e-mail address of the acknowledgment requesting device as set forth in column 13, lines 18-21 of SAITO et al., does not comply with the recitation of Applicant's claims since Applicant's claim requires that the transmission of the communication result file to the terminal apparatus be "when a request for the communication result file is received from the terminal apparatus". In this regard, Applicant notes that at step 50, the various terminals, to which information is going to be transmitted, as well as which are being informed of the accomplishment of transmission, are input. This does not comply with the

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recitations of Applicant's claims. Thus, for this additional reason, the claims are submitted to be patentable over the reference cited by the Examiner.

For each of these reasons and certainly for all of these reasons, it is respectfully submitted that SAITO et al. is an inappropriate basis for the rejection of any of the claims in the present application.

Applicant further wishes to make of record a telephone interview conducted between Applicant's undersigned representative and Examiner Pokrzywa in charge of the present application. During the above-noted interview, which was conducted on May 18, 2004, Applicant's representative pointed out the differences between Applicant's claimed invention as reflected in the claims and the disclosure of SAITO et al. applied by the Examiner. The differences discussed during the interview have also been set forth above. Accordingly, this Response constitutes the record of the above-noted interview.

Applicant respectfully thanks Examiner Pokrzywa for his courtesy and cooperation in obtaining the file and scheduling the above-noted interview. Additionally, Applicant respectfully thanks Examiner Pokrzywa for his open-mindedness and for his courtesy during the conducting of the above-noted interview.

By the present Response, Applicant has submitted a number of additional claims dependent from each of the independent claims in the present application. These claims more particularly define features of Applicant's invention and thus provide additional bases for the

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patentability thereof. The Examiner is thus respectfully requested to consider these claims and indicated the allowability thereof.

For each of the above-noted reasons and for all of the above-noted reasons, it is respectfully submitted that Applicant's claims are clearly patentable over the reference cited thereagainst. An action to such effect is respectfully requested and is now believed to be appropriate and proper.

SUMMARY AND CONCLUSION

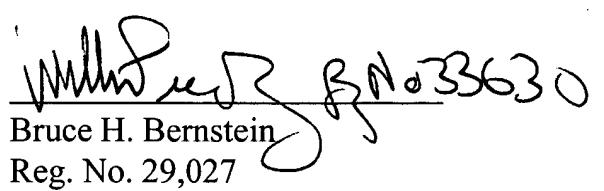
Applicant has made a sincere effort to place the present application in condition for allowance and believes that he has now done so. Applicant has not amended the pending claims but has submitted several additional claims for consideration by the Examiner. With respect to the pending claims, Applicant has pointed out the deficiencies of the Examiner's rejection. Applicant has further pointed out specific features of Applicant's claims that are not taught, disclosed nor rendered obvious by the reference relied upon by the Examiner. Accordingly, Applicant has provided a clear evidentiary basis supporting the patentability of all the claims in the present application and respectfully requests an indication to such effect in due course.

By the present Response, Applicant has submitted several additional claims for consideration by the Examiner and has pointed out a basis for their patentability. Finally, Applicant has made of record a telephone interview conducted in the present application and for which Applicant respectfully thanks the Examiner.

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Should the Examiner have any questions or comments regarding this response, or the present application, the Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned at the below-listed telephone number.

Respectfully submitted,
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